

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

IO-11 /071 W

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R 191400Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9451

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0126

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN PRAGUE

1. IT IS PERHAPS ADVISABLE TO REPORT THAT WESTERN
DIPLOMATIC ATTEMPTS TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE DEPUTY FOREIGN
MINISTERS' MEETING HELD IN PRAGUE JANUARY 13-14 HAVE
YIELDED NOTHING.

2. MEETING RECEIVED ONLY BRIEF MENTION IN PRESS JANUARY 15,
NOTING "UTTER UNITY OF VIEWS" BUT GIVING NO HINT OF TOPICS
DISCUSSED. ATTENDANCE OF MONGOLIAN REPRESENTATIVE SUGGESTS
THAT SESSION MAY HAVE BEEN AT LEAST PARTLY CMEA-
ORIENTED. MOST OF THE KNOWLEDGEABLE EMBASSIES, E.G.
THE BRITISH, REPORT NO INFORMATION. WESTERNERS HERE
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HAVE FOUND OUT ONLY ONE BIT OF INFORMATION, THAT ALL

FIVE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS ATTENDED ALL OF THE SESSIONS. THIS LED THE GERMANS HERE TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE MEETING DEALT WITH GENERAL EUROPEAN PROBLEMS AND NOT WITH ANY SPECIFIC TOPIC. (THIS DOES NOT JIBE WITH WHAT GERMANS SAID IN MOSCOW, PARA 2 OF MOSCOW 0708, BUT POSSIBLY THERE THE GERMANS GOT SOME INFORMATION FROM ROMANIANS OR OTHERS. IN PRAGUE THE USUALLY TALKATIVE ROMANIANS HAVE SO FAR NOT COUGHUP ANYTHING UP ON THIS MEETING EXCEPT GENERALITIES.) WE FOUND OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE

MFA SIXTH DEPT HARD TO GET TO ALL WEEK (JAN 12-16), AND THE WHOLE DEPARTMENT WAS TIED UP AT THE MEETING ALL DAY THE 15TH, POSSIBLY IN BRIEFINGS ABOUT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING. DURING A CALL ON BILATERAL TOPICS JAN 16, CHARGE AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR ASKED ZANTOVSKY (HEAD SIXTH DEPT) IF HE COULD PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING, BUT HE GAVE NOTHING BUT AN EMBARRASSED PROMISE TO LOOK INTO IT.

3. PERHAPS IT IS STRANGE TO SEND A MESSAGE SAYING "NOTHING TO REPORT," BUT WE WANTED ADDRESSEES TO BE AWARE THAT WESTERN ENQUIRIES HAD RUN INTO THE USUAL TIGHTNESS OF COMMUNICATION AMONGST CZECH OFFICIALS. PERRY

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